

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A computer implemented method for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a vendor device with a computer platform coupled to a wireless transmission channel port; and

10 transmitting from the vendor device via the wireless transmission channel port to a compatible wireless transmission channel port on a wireless mobile device a program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions.

15 2. The method of claim 1 comprising an additional step of causing the wireless mobile device to interact wirelessly with the vendor device and a related micropayments accounting system.

20 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the interaction with a related micropayments accounting system will cause the vendor device to provide a product or service to the holder of the wireless mobile device.

25 4. The method of claim 2 wherein the interaction with a related micropayments accounting system will cause a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of causing a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device produces a debit to a prepaid digital account or aggregates the debit with other current debits to be billed to the account holder at month end.

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6. A system for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the system comprising :

5 a vendor device coupled to a computer platform which comprises a wireless transmission channel port; and

transmitting from the vendor device via the wireless transmission channel port to a compatible wireless transmission channel port on a wireless mobile device, a program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions.

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7. A system for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the system comprising :

15 a computer having a processor, a memory, connections to the Internet and a wireless transmission channel port;

a vendor device electronically coupled to the computer; and

20 a logic mechanism coupled to computer whereby the vendor device can transmit via the wireless transmission channel port to a compatible wireless transmission channel port on a wireless mobile device, a program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions.

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8. The system of claim 7 wherein the program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions comprises an additional logic mechanism for causing the wireless mobile device to interact wirelessly with the vendor device and a related micropayments accounting system.

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9. The system of claim 8 wherein the interaction with a related micropayments accounting system will cause the vendor device to provide a product or service to the holder of the wireless mobile device.

10. The system of claim 7 wherein the interaction with a related micropayments accounting system will cause a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device.

5 11. The system of claim 10 wherein the causing a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device produces a debit to a prepaid digital account or aggregates the debit with other current debits to be billed to the account holder at month end.

10 12. A system for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the system comprising :

a computer having a processor, a memory, connections to the Internet and a wireless transmission channel port;

15 a vendor device electronically coupled to the computer; and

means for permitting the vendor device to transmit via the wireless transmission channel port to a compatible wireless transmission channel port on a wireless mobile device, a means for taking control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions.

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13. A computer program embedded on a computer readable medium for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, comprising:

25 a first code mechanism for recognizing a wireless mobile device within communications range of a vendor device;

a second code mechanism coupled to the first code mechanism for transmitting a third code mechanism to the wireless mobile device, wherein the third code mechanism takes control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, 30 interaction and display functions.

14. The computer program embedded on the computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the third code mechanism contains additional code mechanisms to communicate with the vendor device and with a related micropayments accounting system to cause the vendor device to provide a product or service to the holder of the wireless mobile device.

5 15. The computer program embedded on the computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the third code mechanism contains additional code mechanisms to communicate with the vendor device and with a related 10 micropayments accounting system to cause a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device.

10 16. An apparatus for capturing control of a wireless mobile device comprising:

15 a product device containing a wireless mechanism under the control of a microprocessor for recognizing a presence of at least one wireless mobile device; the microprocessor in the product device taking electronic control of the wireless mobile device whereby the product device can send data to and receive data from the wireless mobile device; and 20 a link to a micropayment system coupled to the microprocessor whereby the product device can receive an indicia of payment for a service performed by the product device in response to a command from the wireless mobile device.

25 17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the wireless mobile device is a mobile phone.

18. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the wireless mobile device is a personal data assistant device.

30 19. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the wireless mechanism is a wireless transmission channel mechanism.

20. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the wireless mechanism is a Bluetooth mechanism.

5 21. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the product device is a drink vending machine.

22. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the product device is a cigarette vending machine.

10 23. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the product device is a copy vending machine.

15 24. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the product device is a food vending machine.

25. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the product device is a personal service vending machine.

20 26. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the product device is a parking meter.

25 27. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the micropayment system is a Qpass micropayment machine.

28. An apparatus for capturing control of a wireless mobile device comprising:

 a product device containing a means for recognizing a presence of at least one wireless mobile device, and for taking electronic control of the wireless mobile device whereby the product device can send data to and receive data from the wireless mobile device; and

a means for linking to a micropayment system whereby the product device can receive an indicia of payment for a service performed by the product device in response to a command from the wireless mobile device.

5 29. A computer implemented method for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the method comprising the acts of:

 providing a vendor device with a wireless mechanism coupled to a
10 wireless transmission channel port under the control of a computer platform ;
 transmitting from the vendor device via the wireless transmission channel port to a compatible wireless transmission channel port on a wireless mobile device a program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions, whereby data can be interchanged between the
15 vendor device and the wireless mobile device; and
 providing an electronic link whereby the wireless mobile device can interact wirelessly with the vendor device and a related micropayments accounting system.

20 30. The method of claim 29 wherein the interaction with the related micropayments accounting system will cause the vendor device to provide a product or service to the holder of the wireless mobile device.

25 31. The method of claim 29 wherein the interaction with the related micropayments accounting system will cause a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device.

30 32. The method of claim 31 wherein the step of causing a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device produces a debit to a prepaid digital account or aggregates the debit with other current debits to be billed to the account holder at month end.

33. A system for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the system comprising :

- 5 a vendor device having a wireless transmission channel port coupled to a computer platform;
- 10 a mechanism in the vendor device coupled to the wireless transmission channel port enabled to recognize the electronic presence of a wireless mobile device, whereby the mechanism can cause the transmission of a program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions.

34. A system for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the system comprising :

- 15 a computer having a processor, a memory, connections to the Internet and a wireless transmission channel port;
- 20 a vendor device electronically coupled to the computer;
- 25 a logic mechanism coupled to computer whereby the vendor device can transmit via the wireless transmission channel port to a compatible wireless transmission channel port on a wireless mobile device, a program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions; and wherein the program to take control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions comprises an additional logic mechanism for causing the wireless mobile device to interact with a micropayments accounting system.

35. The system of claim 34 wherein the interaction with a micropayments accounting system will cause the vendor device to provide a product or service to the holder of the wireless mobile device.

36. The system of claim 34 wherein the interaction with a related micropayments accounting system will cause a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device.

5 37. The system of claim 36 wherein the causing a charge to be made to the account of the holder of the wireless mobile device produces a debit to a prepaid digital account or aggregates the debit with other current debits to be billed to the account holder at month end.

10 38. A system for reverse-control of a wireless mobile device in order to perform functions using the wireless mobile device in addition to those for which the device was designed, the system comprising :
 a computer having a processor, a memory, connections to the Internet and a wireless protocol port;
15 a vendor device electronically coupled to the computer;
 means for permitting the vendor device to transmit via the wireless protocol port to a compatible wireless protocol port on a wireless mobile device; and
 a means for taking control of the wireless mobile device's menuing, interaction and display functions.